

METEOR

vol 1 no 3

THE NEWSZINE OF THE 1968 BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

July 1967

KENNETH BULMER GUEST OF HONOUR

KENNETH BULMER first appeared in science-fictional print in TALES OF WONDER No. 12, Autumn, 1940. He placed first in Walter Gilling's SEARCH FOR IDEAS contest with the piece about the Conquest of Space. In this particular competition, Arthur C. Clarke was placed second, third was John F. Burke and fourth was H.E. Turner. This was the first time Ken had tried. He gave the next comp a miss and tried again for the Conquest of Time. Again he placed first and as far as we know no one else ever managed to win twice. The the army engulfed him (Africa, Sicily, Italy,) and after the war; with Vince Clarke they did a giggle job for the old cruddy Panther and were amused when it was bought. When Ken and Vince saw the money though - the huge sum of £30, they stopped laughing and began to do more. That's how Ken started writing paperbacks. Ken's first sale to a post-war magazine was to Bert Campbell's



authoritative, followed by sales to Carnell and Peter Hamilton. He did the only serial NEBULA ever ran, and also had four serials in the old NEW WORLDS. Some of the best-liked of Ken's stories appeared in SCIENCE FANTASY - Beyond The Silver Sky is often noted. Latest one from Ace: To Outrun Doomsday indicates a new departure for Ken, and The Doomsday Men published by Doubleday also shows another fresh line of attack on the problem of whither SF.

Ken has had the usual foreign translations and editions - Defiance was actually published first in German. Together with John Newman, who is a brilliant research scientist, he produced a long series of articles under the name of Kenneth Johns - selling to odd places like L'ESPRESSO, COURIER and DAILY HERALD and ASTOUNDING, and regularly to all the British prozines, and producing two editions of The True Book About Space Travel.

On fannish affairs, Ken has been pretty active, although not over the last six or seven years. He was the first elected TAFF delegate, going to Cleveland in 1955; started OMPA with Vince Clarke; produced various fanzines and with Ted Tubb did the famous Cheltenham jousting trip in 1959.

The Con Committee is very pleased to have Ken as Guest of Honour, and we're sure that all of you who've met Ken at previous cons will agree that he's just the man we need to make THIRDMANCON go with a bang!

Herzliche Einladung!

An dieser Stelle ein Wort an die deutschsprachigen Leser von METEOR.

METEOR ist das Mitteilungsblatt fuer die Teilnehmer des THIRDMANCONS, der Ostern 1968 in Manchester abgehalten wird. Von Seiten des Con-Komitees ergeht die herzliche Einladung an alle deutschsprachigen Fans, an diesem Treffen teilzunehmen. Als Ehrengast ist H.K. Bulmer geladen; ausserdem wird der naechste TAFF-Gewinner als Fan-Ehrengast anwesend sein. In METEOR, das durch den Erwerb einer Con-Mitgliedschaft fuer 7/6d bezogen werden kann, erscheinen laufend weitere Einzelheiten ueber die Con-Planung.

Goennt Euch einen ungewoehnlichen Urlaub, goennt Euch den THIRDMANCON!

Für Auskuenfte aller Art stehen Eric Bentcliffe, Bill Burns, Harry Nadler und auch ich jederzeit zur Verfuegung.

Thomas Schlueck
3 Hannover
Altenbekener Damm 10.

Ken Bulmer, almost photographed by our drunken cameraman at YARCON

NEW REGISTRATIONS

76	Colin Britch	Swinton
77	John Hutchinson	Whitby
78	R.J. Charlesworth	Congleton
79	Bob Bell	Vietnam
80	John Owen	Liverpool
81	Cyril Whitaker	Spalding
82	Terry Jeeves	Sheffield
83	Valerie Jeeves	Sheffield
84	Darroll Pardoe	Stourbridge
85	Ethel Lindsay	Suroiton
86	Bob Hough	Sheppey
87	Charlie Winstone	Birmingham
88	John Brunner	London
89	Pete Taylor	London
90	J. Ramsey Campbell	Liverpool
91	Janet R. Prince	Liverpool
92	Jack Wilson	Spalding

stop press!

TOM SCHLUECK is
our Continental rep.,
& ANDY PORTER: 24
E. 82 St, NY, NY 10028

is Our Man in the USA.
TAFF BALLOT FORMS
DELAYED UNTIL
NEXT ISSUE

METEOR write

EDITORIAL CHANGE

From this issue, Harry Nadler and Bill Burns take over the editorship from Charles Partington, who has had to give up the job owing to pressure of outside work. Our thanks to Chuck for the first two issues.

APOLOGIES DEPT.

Our printer's apologies and such for making METEOR 2 the first topless newszine! The main fault lies with the editors, tho, for pasting up the issue slightly too big - this one should be okay (it says here!).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

From July 7th, when Bill Burns heads for the USA for 11 weeks, please send all correspondence, including registrations to Harry Nadler, 5 South Mesnefield Road, Lower Kersal, Salford 7, Lancs. This address should be used for all official communications to our treasurer until September 26th, when our ace reporter returns with a World Con report complete with photos, we hope.

Thanks this issue to John Roles, Pat Boylan, Maria Nadler, Eddie Jones, J. Ramsey Campbell, Bob

NEAR & FAR

SNIPPETS FROM
THE METEOR NEWSDESK



Our congratulations to John Ramsey Campbell and Rosemarie Prince who recently announced their engagement. Best wishes for the future to you both.

Eddie Jones was the only Englishman to gain any prizes for Fijian Stamp Designs, his £2 value design won the full prize of £40 and two others won 50% of the design prize - £20 each. The rest of the set (14 values) went to Fijians, Austrailians, and Americans. One Polish gent living in England had one design accepted. The publicity including Eddie's photograph - various studio/action poses - found its way into the local press; "World Press News" "Advertiser's Weekly" and "Print Buyer" and Eddie was interviewed for Fijian Radio.

Our Man Bill Burns will represent THIRDMANCON at this year's World SF Convention in New York. Bill leaves England for the States and Canada on July 7th for an eleven week tour. METEOR 5 will carry his report on the NYCON. Bill says he is looking forward very much to meeting American fans, and would appreciate hearing from anyone willing to show him around their own particular part of town in the USA. His address while over there is: 297 Indian Road, Apt. 2, Sarnia, Ontario,

TAFF - '68

Enclosed with this issue of METEOR you will find a copy of the latest TAFF voting ballot. The names of three American fans, ED COX, TED JOHNSTONE, STEVE STILES, appear on it and one of these you will meet at next year's THIRDMANCON in Buxton. The 1968 TAFF-winner from the USA will be Fan Guest of Honour of this convention, in addition being special guest of the con-committee. It is by your vote that the winner is chosen, and it is by your contribution that the Trans Atlantic Fan Fund is able to fulfill its task - the further deepening of inter-oceanic fan contacts. You are heartily invited and most welcome to make use of your voting form and send in your choice. You are going to attend the THIRDMANCON - so you are going to meet next year's TAFF representative!

Thomas Schlueck
3 Hannover
Altenbekener Damm 10
Western Germany.

St. Ann's Hotel

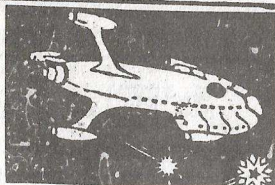
The terms for the con hotel are as follows

Full board - 3 guineas per day, children under twelve 45/- per day.
Bed & Breakfast - 2 guineas per day, children 35/- per day.

All rates are subject to a 10% service charge, and an additional 5% S.E.T. charge. If you want bed & breakfast terms, please return your booking form as soon as possible, since the management state that they

STAR TRADER

The Editors



Contributions are invited for a new fanzine to be called SON OF NEW FUTURIAN. The best contribution will earn its author free associateship of the Ancient Order of Witches, Warlocks and Sorcerers. Contributions to: Howard A. Rosenblum, 7 Grosvenor Park, Allerton Hill, LEEDS 7.

For Sale: Mint set of GALAXY (USA editions) from first issue complete through to the April 1962 issue - 110 issues. OFFERS to Eric Bentcliffe, 51 Thorn Grove, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire. Would be willing to exchange for good cine outfit - or cash.

For Sale: Hundreds of British and American S.F. and Fantasy paperbacks/magazines. Many scarce items. (Wanted - BRE Astounding mags.) Lists (S.A.E. please) L. Walton, 11 Fairbourne Road, Levenshulme, Manchester 19.

There's only one address to obtain AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW from:- Graham M Hall, 57 Church Street, Tewkesbury, Glos. Subscriptions at 7/6 for 3, 14/- for 6, and £1 7s 6d for 12, will be accepted at all times.

Canada.

Our most distant reader of METEOR must surely be Bob Bell who has gotten himself lumbered in the Vietnam war. Bob tells us he is stationed on an Air Force base away from the front line but still has to watch out for 140mm rockets heading his way. Bob needs fan correspondence, so why not write him at the following address:

A3/c Robert J Bell
366th M.M.S. Dr#16 Box 9
APO San Francisco 96337
U.S.A.

He'll appreciate any fanzines you can spare

MOVIE MAKER magazine will carry full details of the THIRDMANCON AMATEUR FILM CONTEST which will be open to any amateur group or individual. The first prize of a handsome trophy will be awarded to the best film with a science fiction or fantasy theme. The winning film will be shown at THIRDMANCON and the best runners-up will be included in the Midnight Marathon.

Entry forms are obtainable from the Chairman and the closing date for entries is February 29th 1968.

7/6 to Harry Nadler makes you a member of THIRDMANCON and brings all future issues of METEOR and other con publications.

can accomodate only 20 people at the B&B rate.

The con committee is still discussing with the management the possibility of a reduction - more details in the next issue of METEOR.

STARTRADER part two!

THE CENTRAL CONTRIBUTORS POOL was set up with the dual purpose of helping fan place material, and editors obtain contributions for their mags. If you have a contribution but don't know where to send it, give it to us and we'll find it a home. If you're a faned and need material, write to us and we'll supply it. The relevant sections are STORIES AND ARTICLES: write to Tom Jones, 27 Lansbury Ave, Rossington, Doncaster, Yorks. POETRY, ARTWORK, AND ANYTHING ELSE: write to: Mary Reed, 71 The Fairway, Banbury, Oxon. Will any faneds requesting contributions please give details of the style & length of stories, and type & size of artwork required, please.

Wanted. ANY edition of CODE THREE by Rick Raphael; THE ETHICAL ENGINEER by Harry Harrison. Also the following paperbacks: THE HIGH CRUSADE - Poul Anderson
THE ALIEN WAY - Gordon R. Dickson
THEY'D RATHER BE RIGHT - Clifton and Riley
SCIENCE FICTION HORIZONS - Tom Boardman
PUT DOWN THIS EARTH - John Brunner
OUT LIKE A LIGHT - Mark Phillips
Also 2nd edition of Donald Tuck's HANDBOOK OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION.
For sale. SF book club choices in mint condition at 2/- each. SAE for list.
All offers and enquiries to John Hutchinson
18 Windsor Terrace, Whitby, Yorks.

THIRDMANCON

programme notes



Saturday night at THIRDMANCON will be certain to be a real swinger. Pete Daniels and the Merseysippi Jazz Band will provide the backing to the FANCY DRESS PARTY which returns to the Con scene after a year's absence. To encourage you-all to join the throng we shall be awarding a superb trophy to the best overall costume, in addition to awards for the best costumes in each category:- (1) Best BEM (2) Best SF character (3) Best fantasy character (4) Most novel costume (5) Best child's costume. Suggestion for additional and/or alternative categories will be welcomed by the committee, as will any suggestions or ideas for anything on the programme. We aim to make THIRDMANCON as enjoyable as possible and obviously ideas other than our own will help towards this goal.

Some suggested programme items are now to hand, so here are full details to date:-

AUCTIONS

Of course no Con would be anything without its auctions, and the usual plea for materials has started. Brian Marshall will be handling all auction material and the sooner you can send along anything you are willing to donate, the better.

Brian's address is:

619, Huddersfield Road,
Oldham,
Lancs.

Film at the witching hour, and then to follow this with a marathon cavalcade of short films into the early hours! This will allow the film fiends to view until their eyes pop out, without interfering with valuable Con time if a double feature show was put on earlier. In fact it might be an idea to award a prize (a statuette of Brian Burgess in blancmange) to the last fan to keep awake!

Films so far suggested for the main Midnight feature are as follows:-

KING KONG THEM THE TIME MACHINE
INCIDENT AT OWL CREEK THE BIRDS THE
DAY THE WORLD ENDED DESTINATION MOON
ROCKETSHIP X-M THE CAT PEOPLE THE
ADVENTURES OF THE BARON MUNCHAUSEN IT
HAPPENED TOMORROW I WALKED WITH A ZOMBIE

Whichever film is finally chosen for the main feature, it will be followed by runners up in the THIRDMANCON AMATEUR FILM CONTEST (for details see elsewhere) and some of the most requested old Delta movies plus extracts from professional films . . . and may the best fan win!

Any other ideas for the feature or the shorts will be welcome.

HUM AND SWAY

Last officially seen at Petercon in 1963, when a grand total of £14 was collected for TAFF, the Hum and Sway ceremony will return to the Con-scene next year.



SLIDES WANTED



THOSE TWO up above are trying to think of a caption (you'll note Pete has his thinking-cap on!) for one of the slides to be shown at the THIRDMANCON. So how about making their task all the harder by sorting through your collection of Fannish Slides for suitably captionable ones for the THIRDMANCON SLIDE SHOW.

There's no hurry, yet, on sending the slides, but I would like to hear from people who have slides they'd be willing to loan.

OUTER SPACE

We are hoping that it will be possible to have a lecturer from either Jodrell Bank or the Manchester Astronomical Society to give an illustrated talk on the latest space advances.

ST. FANTONY

The Grand Order of St Fantony will be presenting something extra special for us. It could be the talked-of gory battle between two Knights in full armour, so watch this space for further details!

THIS IS YOUR FAN LIFE

Be warned now! THIS IS YOUR FAN LIFE will be a feature of the THIRDMANCON programme and the victim could very well be YOU! It is a good few years since this was performed at a Con, well before most of the THIRDMANCON Committee were attending cons, so this is something we are really looking forward to.

SLIDE SHOW

Elsewhere in these columns Eric Bentcliffe gives details of the slide show and photo contest he is planning. All correspondence on this should be sent to him at:

51 Thorn Grove,
Cheadle Hulme,
Cheadle, Cheshire.

FILMS

It is very difficult to run a film show successfully during the daylight hours of the convention, so to go to the other extreme, we thought of a Midnight Movie Festival. We plan to screen the Convention

been attempted once since, at the London World Convention in 1965, but here it was an unofficial item and the high priests were sent scattering when unbelievers (the "friendly" manager) came upon the scene!

DELTA SF FILM GROUP

The Delta Group are presently adding the final touches to scripts for a number of short films for THIRDMANCON. ALL THE WORLD'S TEARS, from the story by Brian Aldiss, is ready for the cameras subject to approval of the final script by Brian. Charles Partington has adapted the story and will direct.

Other stories under surveillance for scripting are Kenneth Bulmer's QUARRY and an original story by Tom Holt.

A PLACE IN FANNISH HISTORY

There must be quite a lot of fans who take movie shots at conventions and have odd 50ft reels that very rarely get shown.

If all these reels were collected and edited into one film, they would make very interesting material for Convention viewing. Norman Shorrocks has offered to take on the task of editing up such a compilation and so far we have about 5 reels taken over the years. If any of the movie fans would be willing to let us use their footage in such a compilation we'd much appreciate you letting us know. The final film would then be available to all those contributing footage, and of course copies could be made if anyone so desired. We already have some great shots taken quite a few years ago and no matter when your footage was taken it will help to make up a permanent record of fannish history. ●

for the show. I'll guarantee that these will be kept in perfect condition and will be untouched by human hands.

PHOTOSHOW

This is for the people who prefer prints to slides. There will be an exhibition at the convention (with prizes for the best) of B&W & Colour Prints. These can be sent any time, and the sooner the better, please - like, we need to know how many walls will be needed!

The PHOTOS will be displayed in Art Show fashion, and we intend to classify them loosely as 'Most Artistic', 'Most Fannish', 'Best Action Shot', 'Best Candid Shot', and 'Most Unusual'. (Note to Norman Shorrocks... this latter category is not for photos taken with thumb-over-lens!)

What the prizes will be has yet to be considered, but we hope to make them something worthwhile. If you-all support the Show, they can be.

ERIC BENTCLIFFE.

METEOR is the official publication of the THIRDMANCON. Published at regular intervals for the Convention committee and edited by Harry Nadler and Bill Burns. Editorial address: 5, South Mesnefield Road, Lower Kersal, Salford 7, Lancashire.

TIME-BINDING

by

ERIC BENTCLIFFE

"Things ain't what they used to be!"....

Said Harry Nadler as his latest 'Creature from the Black Abyss' subsided into a puce coloured puddle.... But he agreed, that this statement wasn't true of SF Conventions.

They've been good ones, bad ones, cool ones, hot ones; but they've all been enjoyable ones.

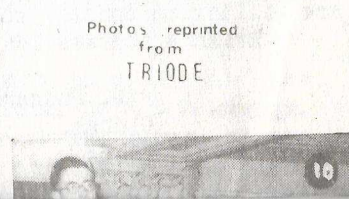
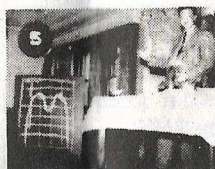
He wasn't around in the dim distant past of the 1954 "Super-Mancon", but if he had been, he'd have enjoyed it....you could call it the first of the 'Wild Ones'.. the Convention at which zap-guns and goonery really appeared at a s-f convention. It was a natural reaction to the previous fairly staid London Conventions, and the direct ancestor of those wholly enjoyable, relaxed affairs at Kettering.

It was also notable as the convention at which the Liverpool

Speaking of old time cons there's one feature of them that your '68 Convention Committee would like to see revived. This is the 'COMBOZINE' section of the Programme Booklet - these (for those who are new to fandom) were smaller versions of the regularly appearing fanzines of the time which were stapled in with the programme booklet. The SUPERMAN-CON programme book for instance included special short convention editions of; ALPHA, BEM, BRENNSCHELUSS, FEMIZINE, MEDWAY JOURNAL, ORBIT, NIRVANA, SPACE-TIMES, SPACE-DIVERSIONS and ZENITH.

It would be nice to revive this tradition, and the committee invite everyone to give thought to the idea, and to contribute. We'd particularly like to see a few fannish revivals for the '68 Combozine - HYPHEN, NEW FUTURIAN, BEM, and NIRVANA - together with participation from the current fan-editors. How about it ?????

The programme booklet for the '68 convention will be quarto (10x8) size, and your zines should ideally conform to this. Deadline, one month prior to the con, but please inform us earlier of expected page count.



Photos reprinted from TRIODE

inspired series of TAPERAS - it deserves to be remembered for this alone. But the photos here presented will no doubt give you an idea of what went on far better than I can in the space available to me.

NUMBER ONE, depicts John Roles with 'Lensman' tie, and contra-rotating Atomic Beanie... No.2, shows Brian Burgess expressing a preference for crumpet over meat pies. No.3, Terry Jeeves (my co-partner in TRIODE) draws a cover for Alister Paterson, editor of the vanishing Vargo Statten Magazine. No.4, Margeret Finch, an Aussie fan visitor. No.5, Frank Simpson. No.6, Frances Varley. No.7, Geoff Lewis. No.8, we see Ethel Lindsay, Frances Varley, and Frances Glynn.

No.9 has John Roles testing out a new propellor-beanie introduced by Pete Taylor. John Brunner looks on, and not agahst! No.10, pictures Ted Tubb selling Ron Buckmaster, who was disguised as AUTHENTIC editor Bert Campbell at the auction. No.11, Buckmaster again, Shirley Marriott, Herr von Neumann (an immigrant itinerant) Daphne Buckmaster and John Brunner. No.12, Ted Carnell, Frances Varley, and Jim Rattigan. No.13, Brian Lewis and Tony Thorne of the Medway Group. No.14, Frank Simpson. No.15, Brian Aviss, Brian Lewis, Brian Varley and John Roles display some weapons of the period.

It was quite a convention.

